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U. S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5630 -Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD-20785

Dear Manager:

I urge the FDA to grant petition number 98 P-0151/CP1 prohibiting the slaughter of downed animals.

If these animals are too sick or injured to even stand, then they should not be allowed to enter the human food chain.

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In addition, downed animals are moved inhumanely; usually pushed with tractors or dragged with chains causing more pain and injury and then left to suffer until slaughtered.

Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive for the livestock industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

The USDA's policy to stop purchasing meat from downed cows for federal programs reflects a, grbiing consensus. that this practice in unacceptable.

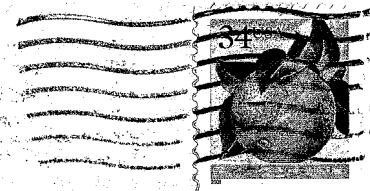
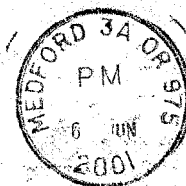
I ask the FDA to act conscientiously and grant this petition.

Sincerely,

Mary L. Russell
Mary L. Russell
(e-mail: haven@mind.net)

98P-0151

C4990



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